

WILLIAM KOCH

BIOGRAPHY



Bill Koch is Director of Workforce Development and Operations for Still Serving Veterans. He has worked with the organization since 2009. He is a retired Marine with 20 years service to our country. After retirement, he held management positions in the building trades, insurance industry, and call center operations. His passion for helping veterans led him to Still Serving Veterans, a 501 (3) non-profit organization based in Huntsville, Alabama.

Mr. Koch is responsible for the administration of daily operations, career development initiatives, and activities in support of Hiring Veterans and Wounded Warriors. Mr. Koch's organization provides veterans with coaching, guidance, and counseling. Additionally, Still Serving Veterans (SSV) helps disabled veterans reintegrate into the workforce through resume review and preparation, interview counseling and coaching. SSV also serves as a connector between veterans and potential employers.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ANTONIO COLMENARES, USMC (RET)

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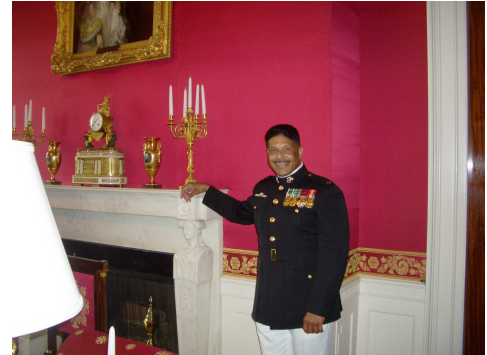
Lieutenant Colonel (LtCol) Colmenares was born in Pinar Del Rio, Cuba on 14 June 1960. He moved to the United States with his mother and brother in 1963, after his father was exiled from Cuba for participating in the Bay of Pigs invasion and other guerilla operations against the government of Fidel Castro.

LtCol Colmenares grew up in Miami Florida and attended high school at Interamerican Military Academy where he graduated with honors in 1977. Six months after graduation he enlisted in the Marine Corps and graduated from boot camp at Parris Island South Carolina in August 1978. He was meritoriously promoted to Private First Class at recruit training and was assigned to the Marine Corps Engineer School (MCES) for training as an Electrical Equipment Repairman (1142). After graduation from MCES in Dec 1978 he was assigned to Headquarters and Grounds Maintenance Squadron (H&GMS) 17, 1st Marine Air Wing (MAW), Iwakuni Japan. He worked as a generator technician with the Utilities Section, H&GMS 17 and was meritoriously promoted to Lance Corporal in March 1979. In May 1979 he was transferred to Wing Engineer Squadron 17, 1st MAW, Okinawa Japan, where he worked as a Utilities Quality Control Inspector. In September 1979 he was meritoriously promoted to Corporal and selected as the Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) of the Quarter for the 1st MAW.

In November 1979, he was transferred to Marine Air Control Squadron (MACS) 5, Engineer Support Platoon, 2nd Marine Air Wing where he worked as a line Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) and Quality Control Inspector. While assigned to MACS 5 he was selected three times as the NCO of the Month for the Squadron and once as the NCO of the Quarter for the 2nd MAW. He was promoted to Sergeant in June 1980 and assigned as a Squad Leader for the Engineer Section.

In June 1981, he re-enlisted for six additional years and was transferred to Marine Air Base Squadron 24, Detachment "B", Utilities Platoon, 1st Marine Amphibious Brigade, Kaneohe Bay Hawaii, where he served as the Shop Chief for the Electrical Section. During this assignment he was given collateral duties as Squadron Substance Abuse Coordinator and Physical Fitness Instructor. In October 1983, he was deep selected from the eligibility zone for Staff Sergeant.

In June 1984, he submitted a Warrant Officer package and was selected in October 1984. Was transferred that same year to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune and assigned as the Base Substance Abuse Coordinator while awaiting promotion to Warrant Officer. In February 1985, he was promoted to Warrant Officer and re-assigned to The Basic School (TBS) for training with India Company Warrant Officer Basic Course. After graduation from TBS in May 1985, he was assigned to the Utilities Officers Basic Course, MCES and graduated in August 1985. He was then re-assigned as the Platoon Commander for Mobile Electric Power Platoon, Support



Company, 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Force Service Support Group (FSSG). In May 1986, he was selected to attend the Engineer Equipment Officer Course, MCES and graduated in August 1986.

Promoted to Chief Warrant Officer 2 in February 1987, he continued to serve as platoon commander until his re-assignment in September 1988 to 3rd Maintenance Battalion, Mobile Electric Power Platoon, 3rd FSSG, Okinawa Japan. While assigned to 3rd Maintenance Battalion he participated in numerous off island exercises, most notable of which was Team Spirit. He was instrumental in re-organizing the Utilities Section and transferring assets and responsibilities from 3rd Maintenance Battalion to 9th Engineer Support Battalion.

He was selected as a Limited Duty Officer in December 1988 and promoted to 1st Lieutenant (LDO) (1310) Engineer Maintenance Officer in February 1989. He was re-assigned that same year to 9th Engineer Support Battalion as the Commanding Officer, Headquarters and Service Company.

In September 1989, he was transferred to 2nd Maintenance Battalion, 2nd FSSG for duty as a Platoon Commander in the Engineer Maintenance Company. In October of 1989, he was re-assigned to Brigade Service Support Group (BSSG) 6 for duties as Assistant Operations Officer.

While assigned to BSSG 6 he participated in CONUS and OCONUS exercises as well as real world operations, most notable was the preparation of Combat Service Support Detachments during Operation "Just Cause". In 1990, he was deployed with the BSSG in support of Operation Desert Storm. He participated in Combat Operation during the assault into Kuwait and was instrumental in establishing a collecting and clearing station for immediate evacuation of casualties. During this time he and his personnel captured 48 Iraqi prisoners while taking no casualties. Brigadier General Krulak awarded him the Combat Action Ribbon and the Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal for his actions during this engagement.

After returning from South West Asia in June 1991, he was reassigned to 2nd Landing Support Battalion as the Operations Platoon Commander, Landing Support Equipment Company. In June 1992, he was transferred to Marine Corps Service Support School as the Assistant Director of Logistics and Maintenance Management Officer.

In March 1993, he applied and was selected for re-designation as an unrestricted officer. Promoted to Captain in June 1993, he was reassigned as the Commanding Officer, Headquarters and Service Company. In September 1993, he earned his Baccalaureate Degree in Criminal Justice from Wayland Baptist University after 11 years of attending off duty education.

In June 1994, he was transferred to the 3rd Marine Regiment, 1st MEB, Kaneohe Bay Hawaii and assigned as the Regimental S-4 Officer. In September 1994, the MEB was deactivated and the 3rd Marine Regiment assumed responsibilities for Air Station infrastructure upkeep and monitoring other functional areas. The S-4 shop was given these additional responsibilities and grew to a section of 70 plus Marines. The Regiment was reassigned under 3rd Marine Division and during this timeframe he participated in numerous conferences as well as exercises in

support of III Marine Expeditionary Force. Most notable was the Northern Edge Exercises in Alaska and Tandem Thrust in Australia.

In 1997, he was transferred to Charleston, South Carolina, "C" Company, 4th Landing Support Battalion, for duties as the Inspector Instructor. During this timeframe he trained and prepared hundreds of reservists and executed the Toys for Tots program, which grew from an average of 9,000 toys collected per year to 81,000 toys collected and distributed by the time he left this assignment. Promoted to the rank of Major in 1998 he was selected to attend the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, he was transferred in 2000 and graduated in June 2001 receiving a Masters Degree in Military Studies.

In June 2001, he was transferred to US Southern Command for duties as J-4 Plans and Exercise Officer. Post 9/11, he participated in the establishment of Detainee Operations Camps in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and deployed to Haiti in support of Migrant Operations. While assigned to US Southern Command, he was selected in 2003 by the Miami Dade County government to serve as a member of the newly formed Citizens Independent Transportation Trust of which he is still a member. He was promoted to LtCol in February 2004. In November 2004, he was transferred to Marine Corps Base Camp Butler where he served as the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff (AC/S) G-3 and Future Plans Officer, AC/S G-3.

In January 2007, he reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola Florida for duty with the Naval Service Training Command, and is currently serving as the Officer In Charge of Student Operations for the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) overseeing the unit operations of 71 Colleges and Universities across the United States.

In May 2008, he retired with more than 30 years of active service. He currently resides in Miami, Florida and is the Regional Director International Services and Service to the Armed Forces for the American Red Cross South Florida Region. He was appointed in October 2011 by the City of Miami Mayor as his principle advisor for Veterans Affairs for the City of Miami, and is currently serving as the Chairman of the City of Miami Homeless Veterans Task Force. He was further appointed in July 2012, as a member of the Miami Dade County Military Affairs Board and as the District Director for the Florida Veterans Foundation.

His personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (x3), Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal (x3), Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Joint Service Unit Commendation Medal, Presidential Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Good Conduct Medal (x2), Volunteer Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (x3), Over Seas Deployment Ribbon (x2), National Defense Service Medal (x2), SWA Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal and Global War on Terrorism Medal.

He has nine children and three grandchildren, Venessa (31), Jenise (30), Jenna (27), Tony Jr (23), Phylcia (22), Robert (21), Jose Antonio (13), Alexander (9) Samantha (7) and grandchildren's Weston (5), Joseph (3) and Isabella (infant).